

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-12 (Canceled).

13. (Original): A method of making a strip for testing for the presence or concentration of an analyte in a fluid comprising:

providing a support member with a capillary tube positioned on one side of the support member and communicating with the opposite side of the support member through an aperture in the support member;

mounting a spreading layer on the opposite side of the support member and in communication with the aperture in the support member; and

mounting a reagent layer on the spreading layer.

14. (Original): A method of claim 13 comprising:

mounting a carrier strip on the reagent layer opposite the spreading layer; and

providing an aperture in the carrier layer for observing or measuring the indication of the reagent.

15. (Original): A method of claim 13 comprising:

preassembling the carrier layer, the reagent layer and the spreading layer; and

mounting the preassembled layer on the support member.

16. (Original): A method of claim 13 comprising:

providing a support member with a recessed area for receiving the spreading layer and the reagent layer.

17. (Original): A method of claim 14 comprising:

providing a support member with a recessed area for receiving the spreading layer and the reagent layer.

18. (Original): A method of claim 15 comprising:

providing a support member with a recessed area for receiving the spreading layer and the reagent layer.

19. (Previously added): A method of making a strip for testing for the presence or concentration of an analyte in a fluid comprising:

providing a support member with a capillary;

mounting a spreading layer onto the support member in communication with the capillary; and

mounting a reagent layer on the spreading layer.

20. (Previously added): The method of claim 19, wherein the capillary defines a predetermined volume.

21. (New): The method of claim 13, further comprising:

providing the support member with barrier members; and

creating a predetermined volumetric space by deforming the spreading layer into a shape conforming to the barrier members.

22. (New): A method of claim 19 comprising:

mounting a carrier strip on the reagent layer opposite the spreading layer; and

providing an aperture in the carrier layer for observing or measuring the indication of the reagent.

23. (New): A method of claim 22 comprising:
providing a support member with a recessed area for receiving the spreading layer and the reagent layer.
24. (New): The method of claim 19, further comprising:
providing the support member with barrier members; and
creating a predetermined volumetric space by deforming the spreading layer into a shape conforming to the barrier members.